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Agenda items 27, 55, 56, 74 and 148

The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations

International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Sixtieth year

Letter dated 30 June 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the text of the statement by the heads of State of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan of 23 June 2005, which was adopted during a meeting of the Council on Collective Security of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (see annex).

I should be grateful if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council and of the General Assembly under agenda items 27, 55, 56, 74 and 148 of the fifty-ninth session.

(*Signed*) Andrey **Denisov**

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Annex to the letter dated 30 June 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the heads of State of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan*

We, the heads of the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), at our meeting during the year of the sixtieth anniversary of the victory over fascism, state our intention to increase our efforts to reinforce the cohesion and unity of our countries in order to ensure international peace and security and strengthen stability in the area of CSTO responsibility.

We consider inadmissible any attempts to revise the results of the Second World War or reconsider the moral and ethical assessments of this military catastrophe of the twentieth century. In this regard, we welcome the adoption by consensus, at the initiative of the CSTO States members and some other countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) at the fifty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2004, of the resolution declaring 8-9 May as a time of remembrance and reconciliation.

Recalling the enormous sacrifices undergone during the years of the Great Patriotic War, the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization are fully determined to take active measures on a broad collective basis in order to counteract the challenges and threats which have confronted the world community, particularly international terrorism. We note with satisfaction the completion of work in the United Nations on the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, which will be open for signature at the forthcoming session of the General Assembly. We are prepared to make our weighty contribution to strengthening the anti-terrorist coalition and actively participate in tackling other pressing international problems, including halting the spread of weapons of mass destruction, drug trafficking, arms smuggling, illegal migration, human trafficking and so forth.

Declaring that the CSTO States members will not be the first to place weapons of any type in outer space, we express the hope that other States as well will follow our example.

We attach particular attention to the development of cooperation with the United Nations. We are sure that the obtaining of observer status in the General Assembly by CSTO is opening up further prospects in this area.

In order to make fuller use of the unique potential of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), we favour its real reformation and adaptation to the tasks of counteracting the threats and challenges of the twenty-first century.

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* Adopted on 23 June 2005 in Moscow by the President of Armenia, R. Kocharyan, the President of Belarus, A. Lukashenko, the President of Kazakhstan, N. Nazarbayev, the Acting President of Kyrgyzstan, K. Bakiev, the President of the Russian Federation, V. Putin, and the President of Tajikistan, E. Rakhmonov.

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Comprehensive cooperation within the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the European Asian Economic Council is important for the CSTO States members.

We are in favour of arranging cooperation with the European Union, inter alia, in matters relating to ensuring security and stability. We confirm our readiness to develop contacts and cooperation with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), particularly with regard to counteracting new challenges and threats.

We call upon interested countries and international and regional organizations to coordinate closely action relating to the post-conflict settlement in Afghanistan with a central role played by the United Nations so that that country solves the political and economic problems facing it and becomes a democratic State. We are in favour of taking decisive steps to counteract the threat emanating from Afghanistan of the spread of narcotic drugs, both within CSTO and through participation in international efforts aimed at establishing anti-drug security zones along that country's perimeter.

We are in favour of establishing a new, democratic Iraq and the speedy stabilization of the situation in that country by developing a dialogue aimed at achieving a general national consensus.

We consider that the disagreement arising with regard to the assessments of and views on the development of the nuclear programme of the Islamic Republic of Iran can and must be resolved exclusively through peaceful, political means with account taken of its sovereign rights to utilize atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

We are in favour of settling and unblocking the situation regarding the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula.

Our strategic objective is to establish a just, democratic world order, which must be founded on the principle of the supremacy of international law, mutual respect for interests and ensuring equal security for all States. We wish to see the European continent prosperous and secure.